



# M E D I A   R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

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## HALLWAY DISTURBANCE AT MOUNTAIN VIEW YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

NASHVILLE – Several members of the Knoxville-area press have inquired today about a disturbance at Mountain View Youth Development Center in Dandridge. The incident is currently under investigation by DCS Internal Affairs, and details are still coming to light. Nevertheless, here is a synopsis of what we currently understand to have occurred:

On Thursday, Feb. 22, at about 11:38 a.m., as classes were changing and some students were moving into the cafeteria, a Mountain View student began threatening another student. He assaulted that student in the cafeteria. As security officers intervened and began moving the instigator to confinement, the instigator assaulted yet another student in the hallway.

Security staff members rushed over, but three other students tried to interfere with the officers who were restraining the first student. Immediately, security officers began breaking up the disturbance.

In the course of quelling the incident, three officers were struck. None of them were seriously injured. One officer had a bruised hand and his reading glasses were broken. Another had a scratch on his arm and pain in his ribs. A third had a bruised elbow and bruised ribs. All were examined by medical staff at Mountain View, and as of this writing, none have indicated a need for further medical care.

The student who was first struck in the initial assault in the cafeteria was taken to Jefferson Memorial Hospital where he was treated for a cut on his lip. Another student, who was re-checked Friday morning, sustained an injury to his jaw that is still being examined by doctors.

According to initial reports, the first incident occurred at 11:38 a.m. By 11:53 a.m., all of the four students who were involved had been moved to solitary confinement and are awaiting disciplinary hearings. The instigator is already being moved to Taft Youth Development Center in Pikeville.

Supervisors at Mountain View are still reviewing the initial reports, and the department's Internal Affairs unit is conducting a separate inquiry into the incident. The outcome of that investigation could result in criminal charges against the students.